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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,511	02/23/2004	Rassoll Rashidi	STJD 2 00006	1504
7590	10/11/2006		EXAMINER	
Timothy E. Nauman Fay, Sharpe, Fagan, Minnich & McKee, LLP 1100 Superior Avenue, Seventh Floor Cleveland, OH 44114-2518			COHEN, LEE S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				3739

DATE MAILED: 10/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/784,511	RASHIDI, RASSOLL	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Lee S. Cohen	3739	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2006.
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-21 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 22-27 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/23/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1-21 stand withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on September 14, 2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Bowe (7,013,169). Bowe discloses the basic catheter including electrodes. Applicant's attention is directed to Figures 2 and 3 as well as column 4, line 33+ for a discussion pertaining to the deflection assemblies.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Chen et al (6,671,533). Chen et al disclose the basic catheter including electrodes on a pre-formed curve (column 3, line 22+). Applicant's attention is directed to column 4, line 45+ for a discussion pertaining to the deflection assembly.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 22-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rashidi (2002/0065514) in view of Stevens-Wright (5,383,852) and Bowe (7,013,169). Rashidi discloses the identical catheter except for a second deflection assembly for effecting lateral displacement at a location spaced from the curved distal end. Stevens-Wright discloses a similar catheter including electrodes including a second deflection assembly for effecting such displacement. Applicant's attention is directed to column 5, line 58+ for a discussion pertaining to the deflection assemblies.

Given this teaching, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify Rashidi by adding a second displacement assembly to enable superior control of the positioning of the electrodes. The second displacement assembly would necessarily include a similar tension/compression assembly as employed in Rashidi.

This basic combination includes two deflection assemblies. Claim 22 only requires a proximal deflection assembly while pre-forming the distal end of the catheter into a curved configuration. Bowe discloses the distal end may be preformed as well as have a deflection assembly (see column 3, lines 61-62). Given this teaching, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify Rashidi by adding a pre-formed curve at the distal end to enable superior control of the positioning of the electrodes.

Claims 23-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al (6,671,533) in view of Rashidi (2002/0065514). Chen et al disclose the basic catheter except for the particular deflection mechanism. Rashidi discloses such a mechanism to have been well known in the art. Given this teaching, it would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify Chen et al by using such a mechanism therein to enable superior control over movement of the distal end of the catheter.

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The term “sleeve” used in the claims lacks antecedent basis in the specification.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: At page 7, line 9, “102, 104” should be 62 and 64.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: numeral 40. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37

CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited art discloses a similar deflection assembly.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lee S. Cohen whose telephone number is 571-272-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on 571-272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lee S. Cohen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3739